

VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE
CITY OF TAFT
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA
MARCH 9, 2021
KIVA HUT – 402 PARK STREET
6:30 P.M.

In accordance with Section 551.041 of the Government Code, notice is hereby given that a Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Taft will be held on the 9th day March 2021, at 6:30 p.m. at the Kiva Hut, 402 Park St, Taft, Texas 78390.

You may join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/521508133>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States (Toll Free): 1-866-899-4679

Access Code: 521-508-133

It is not necessary to announce yourself when you join the teleconference.

The public will be permitted to offer public comments via telephone as provided by the agenda and as permitted by the presiding officer during the meeting.

A recording of the telephone conference will be made, and will be available to the public in accordance with the Open Meetings Act upon written request.

1. Call to order and quorum check.
2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance.
3. VISITORS - At this time, comments will be taken from the audience on any subject matter. To address the Council, please sign the Opinion/Speaker Registration Form located on the table at the entrance of the meeting room and deliver to the City Secretary before the meeting begins. Should there be more than five (5) people who wish to speak on a particular issue they need to select one (1) representative to speak for them. In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Council may not discuss or take action on any item which has not been posted on the agenda. Citizens are to refrain from any personal attacks on the council or any member of the staff. Failure to abide by these policies could result in a charge of disorderly conduct.
4. Consider and discuss update regarding the city's financial condition as it relates to bonded debt, past dues, recurring payments, revenues and expenditures.
5. Consider, discuss and take action on Ardurra's Professional Services Agreement to include Design, Topographic Survey, and Environmental Assessment Services for the Texas Department of Transportation Connectivity/Accessibility Sidewalk Project CSJ#0916-28-081 in the amount of \$75,000.00.
6. Update on the sidewalk project and the First, Second and Third Street grant project. *(Councilmember Vara)*
7. Discussion from the Friends of the Library on the opening up of the Taft Public Library.

8. Consider, discuss and take action to approve a contract with OnSolve, LLC for the CodeRED program for a term of 3 years in the amount of \$7,094.79.
9. Consider, discuss and take action to approve an engagement letter from S. Noel Snedeker, II, CPA. for professional accounting services.
10. Consider, discuss, and take action to adopt Ordinance No. 1070, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 968 and rescinding Ordinance No. 984, to designate that the Chief of Police be a municipal officer appointed, hired, and removed by the City's governing body.
11. Presentation, discussion and action, if any, on implementing a Taft Demolition Program.
12. Discussion and action, if any, on the status of LexiPol.
13. Discussion on the possibility of training for the zoning committee. *(Councilmember Vara)*
14. Discuss, consider, and take action on a water utility relief program. *(Councilmember Vara)*
15. Consider, discuss and act to conduct an investigation into Amanda Powell withdrawing \$4,088.63 from a City of Taft's Prosperity Bank Account without prior or proper authorization from the City. *(Mayor Pedro Lopez)*
16. Consider, discuss and take action to close the City of Taft's bank account for the Pride of Taft. *(Mayor Pedro Lopez)*
17. Discussion on using funds from the Restricted Funds to purchase possible storage tank and generators. *(Mayor Pedro Lopez)*
18. Discussion on purchasing a storage tank. *(Mayor Pedro Lopez)*
19. Discussion on purchasing generators. *(Mayor Pedro Lopez)*
20. Discussion on purchasing fire hydrants. *(Mayor Pedro Lopez)*
21. Discuss, consider and act to approve \$10,000 support for the Fireworks Extravaganza sponsorship for the Fourth of July event. *(Councilmember Vasquez)*
22. Discuss, consider and act for Pride of Taft to reserve the city park, the lot behind City Hall, and block off the streets for Springfest and BBQ Cook-off for the date of April 16th, 17th, and 18th. *(Councilmember Vasquez)*
23. Discuss monthly reports for police department, animal control, code enforcement, and public works.
24. Consider, discuss and act on operational and logistical measures related to the City's preparedness and response to the State and City's local state of emergency declaration due to public health and safety emergency known as severe winter weather.
25. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Ordinance No. 1071, an emergency ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas extending a local state of disaster declaration due to a public health emergency known as severe winter weather for ninety (90) calendar days from date of ordinance.

26. Discussion and review of ordinance in regards to turning off water in dire conditions. (*Councilmember Rodriguez*)
27. Consider, discuss, and take action to approve overtime pay for exempt employees for hours worked during the declared severe winter weather.
28. Discuss, consider and act on the operational and logistical measures related to the City's preparedness and response to the federal, state, and city's local state of emergency declarations due to a public health emergency known as Covid-19 pandemic.
29. Consider, discuss and take action to approve Ordinance No. 1072, an emergency ordinance of the City of Taft, Texas extending a local state of disaster declaration due to a public health emergency known as Covid-19 for ninety (90) calendar days from date of ordinance.
30. City Council Requests and Announcements:
 - Requests by Mayor and Councilmembers for items on future City Council agenda
 - Announcements by Mayor and Councilmembers
31. Executive Session:
 1. Convene into executive session pursuant to Section 551.074 Personnel matters involving the appointment and employment of the City Manager.
 2. Convene into executive session pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act to meet with its Attorney to seek legal advice on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the City Council under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act regarding Taft Volunteer Fire Truck.
32. Reconvene into Regular Session and consider, discuss, or take action, if necessary, on any item(s) discussed in Executive Session.
33. Adjournment.

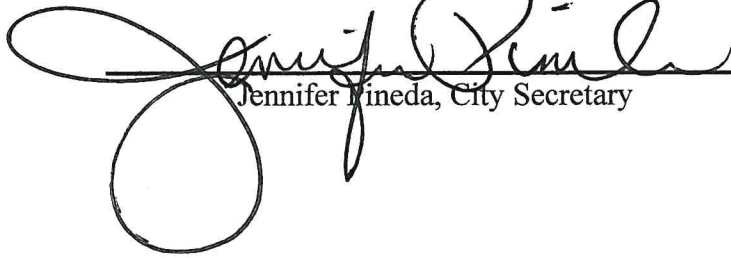
A closed executive session may be held if the discussion of any of the above agenda items concerns one of the following:

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| 1. | Texas Open Meetings Act - Section 551.071 | Contemplated or pending litigation or matters where legal advice is requested of the City Attorney. |
| 2. | Texas Open Meetings Act - Section 551.072 | The purchase, exchange, lease or value or real property , if the deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the City in negotiations with a third person. |
| 3. | Texas Open Meetings Act - Section 551.073 | A contract for a prospective gift or donation to the City, if the deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the City in negotiations with a third person. |
| 4. | Texas Open Meetings Act - Section 551.074 | Personnel matters involving the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear a complaint against an officer or employee. |
| 5. | Texas Open Meetings Act - Section 551.076 | The deployment or specific occasion for the implementation of security personnel or devices . |
| 6. | Texas Open Meetings Act - Section 551.087 | Deliberations regarding economic development negotiations . |

NOTICE

Persons with disabilities planning to attend this meeting who may need auxiliary aids or services are asked to contact the City offices at (361) 528-3512 by Monday noon.

DATED and POSTED this the 5th day of March, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.



Jennifer Pineda, City Secretary